



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

January 18, 2013

To: All Department Heads
From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

HOMELESS COUNT 2013 - VOLUNTEER CENSUS WORKER OPPORTUNITIES FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES

There are over 51,000 homeless individuals and families in Los Angeles County. We are able to provide this estimate from data collected every two years by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). LAHSA is currently preparing for the 2013 Count which will take place on the nights of January 29 through 31, 2013.

The success of the Homeless Count is dependent upon volunteers to conduct the Count.

This is to request that department heads encourage staff to support the Homeless Count by volunteering to assist with this point-in-time census enumeration of homeless individuals and families. The Homeless Count provides County employees with an opportunity to serve on an unpaid basis as a Volunteer Census Worker with LAHSA.

County departments should disseminate information to staff regarding the 2013 Homeless Count by referring to LAHSA's website at www.theycountwillyou.org. Volunteers are required to complete a Volunteer Registration form which is attached and can be accessed on the website. In addition, attached is information on frequently asked questions.

Questions regarding the 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count and County employee volunteer opportunities should be directed to Mark Silverbush at (213) 225-6554, or by accessing the website referenced above.

WTF:AJ:LB
EB:MDC:km

Attachments (2)

c: Each Supervisor

K:SIB:Board Letters and Memos 2013/Memo to Dept Heads-Homeless Count 2013-1-18-13

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

**Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are Two-Sided
Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only**

2013 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

They Count. Will You?

Submit this registration form to
LAHSA by:

- Saving and E-Mailing this form to volunteer@lahsa.org; OR
- Faxing this form to 213-892-0093.

Volunteer Registration Form

Contact Information

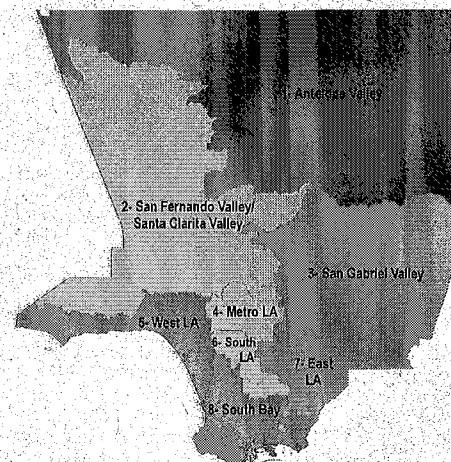
Name	<input type="text"/>		
City	<input type="text"/>	Primary Phone #	<input type="text"/>
Zip Code	<input type="text"/>	Secondary Phone #	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>	Team Name (optional)	<input type="text"/>

Your Preferred Role(s)

- ☐ **Counter** → Count the homeless, get fully trained prior to deployment
- ☐ **Volunteer Recruiter** → Sign-up volunteers for the count, raise awareness about homelessness in your community
- ☐ **Volunteer Trainer** → Train and prepare volunteers to count the homeless
- ☐ **Deployment Site Coordinator** → Manage night-of-count volunteer activities, including site set-up, volunteer arrival, team deployments, and site shutdown
- ☐ **Assistant Deployment Site Coordinator** → Assist the deployment site coordinator with night-of-count volunteer activities
- ☐ **Office Volunteer** → Assist with the Count effort at our office

Pick Your Counting Area(s)

Tuesday Jan. 29, 2013 Night	Wednesday Jan. 30, 2013 Night	Thursday Jan. 31, 2013 Morning	Thursday Jan. 31, 2013 Night
<input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> South Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Metro LA
<input type="checkbox"/> East LA County	<input type="checkbox"/> West LA		<input type="checkbox"/> South LA
			<input type="checkbox"/> San Fernando Valley & Santa Clarita Valley



**2013 GREATER LOS ANGELES
HOMELESS COUNT**
They Count. Will You?
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is the purpose of the Homeless Count and why should I join?

You can make an important impact in the lives of homeless men, women and children by volunteering for the Homeless Count 2013. Your contribution goes well beyond your donated time. By knowing who and where homeless people are in Los Angeles County, government agencies and service providers are better able to plan and identify resources to provide vital services to the homeless, and ultimately move families and individuals into housing.

What is the time commitment for the Homeless Count 2013?

The time commitment is only three to five hours on one (or more) of the following dates:

- Tuesday, January 29, 2013 (8PM) – San Gabriel Valley, East/Southeast Los Angeles
- Wednesday, January 30, 2013 (8PM) – West Los Angeles, South Bay
- Thursday, January 31, 2013 (6AM) – Antelope Valley
- Thursday, January 31, 2013 (8PM) – Metro Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, San Fernando Valley, & Santa Clarita Valley

Can I invite others to join as a group?

Yes, you can invite as many people as you would like to volunteer. You can also sign up to volunteer together as a group. If your place of employment offers volunteer incentives, please let them know about the Homeless Count 2013, then log on to <http://volunteer.theycountwillyou.org/> to register as a team.

What will I be doing as a volunteer?

There are many ways you can participate to help make the Homeless Count 2013 a success. Below are a few examples of volunteering opportunities:

- *Counters; January 29-31, 8PM-12AM:* Counters will be deployed in groups of two or three to count specific blocks in your area. You will receive training and materials on the day of the count from trained volunteers. You will be outside counting for up to four hours.
- *Trainers; January 29-31, 7PM-10PM:* Trainers will be responsible for training all counters at a specific deployment center. Trainers will take on a leadership role and should be comfortable giving directions. LAHSA will provide training prior to the date of the count.
- *Deployment Center Coordinators; January 29-31, 6PM-2AM:* Deployment center coordinators will be in charge of running a deployment center in their local area. Deployment center coordinators will take on a leadership role and should be comfortable giving directions. This includes setting up, ensuring volunteers are trained and deployed appropriately, collecting and reviewing all tally sheets, and cleaning up after the count is over.
- *Transporting Materials; January 27-February 1, varying times:* Before and after the count, we need assistance in transporting material and tally sheets to and from deployment centers back to LAHSA headquarters. All materials must arrive to Deployment Centers by 6:00PM.
- *Office Volunteers; Monday-Friday, 9AM-8PM (Varying hours per day/week):* Office work includes making phone calls to recruit volunteers and helping with data entry. Preferable hours are in the afternoon (5:00PM-8:00PM) with hours of volunteering ranging from 1-3 hours.

I've never done this before. How will I know how to count homeless people?

All volunteers will be fully trained and provided with equipment and materials.

Can I select which area I want to volunteer in?

Yes, we encourage volunteers to count in the community they are most familiar with. Please log on to <http://volunteer.theycountwillyou.org/> to register and indicate your area preference.

What is the expected schedule for the night?

After volunteers check-in at their deployment centers:

- Hour One: All volunteers will be teamed up, trained, given supplies, shirts and hats.
- Hours Two & Three: Volunteer teams will use their maps and tally sheets to count the homeless on the streets, in parks, in cars, etc.
- Hour Four: Once a team's area has been counted, volunteers will return to their deployment centers to check-out with the site coordinator.

How does counting homeless families and individuals help to end homelessness?

To create solutions toward permanent housing, we need to know the size and scope of the problem. The count is really secondary to our goal of getting people into housing. In order to make a difference in the lives of homeless people we need to know who they are and where they are. The data gathered from the count allows us to assess how and where homeless people can best be served.